MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDNAN NAIR: May I know whether the interview was not fixed on the 9th of January?.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Yes.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know whether the letter was not worded that the Dewan would however have no objection to meet the deputation.....

PRESIDENT: It was deliberately worded like that by me. The Navika Thozhilali Sanghom had put forward, prior to the appointment of a special officer, certain requests. The Special Officer was appointed to deal with all questions and as it was considered that if a senior officer was appointed he would be listened to by everybody in the State. If a man gets Rs. 250, he will not listen to a man getting Rs. 249, and they would not co-operate. It was found that there was a certain amount of that spirit in various offices. At all events, people were wanting in co-operation. Therefore a senior officer whom the subordinates of the Excise, the Police and other departments would submit to without grumbling, was appointed. The Navika Thozhilali Sanghom had raised certain questions relating to the boatmen. Those questions could be dealt with most satisfactorily by the officer, because those questions relate to very important matters on which the further policy has to be laid down. Therefore it was thought that after the appointment of this officer, the Navika Thozhilali Sanghom may not desire to see the Dewan. As a matter of fact I received a letter from Mr. Janardanan Nair saying that he did not want to see the Dewan because of the appointment of the Special Officer.

To the Chief Secretary.

"Your letter R. O C. No. 18757/43/C. F. S. dated the 7th January 1944, intimating that the Dewan will have no objection to receive the deputation. With reference to the same I have the honour to inform you that in view of the Press Note issued by the Government on 19-5-119 appointing a Senior Officer to go into the grievances of the workers, the deputation will prefer to wait on the Dewan after conducting the necessary negotiations with the new Special Officer. Moreover the letter permitting us to meet the Dewan was received only to-day afternoon though the request was made two months back. As it is impracticable to collect together all the members of the deputation in so short a time the opportunity may be postponed".

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: I am afraid that there might be the complaint that after getting permission to see the Dewan we did not go and see the Dewan.

PRESIDENT: It will only be a historical fact that the deputation did not meet the Dewan. There is no dissatisfaction involved.

Stock of Salt.

39 ***MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the quantity of the total stock of salt in all the factories till the end of 1118 Thai Pani;

(*b*) whether they received representations for the sanction of Puratasi Pani in salt factories; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the affirmative, whether orders have been passed on those representations?

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MR. C. KUMARA DAS: (*a*) The total stock of salt in all the factories till the end of 1118 Thai Pani was about 25,53,160 maunds.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes.

Work of the State Rice Officer (Mr. S. Rangaswami Aiyangar) at Tanjore.

40 *MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: (*Tiruvella*): Will the Government be pleased to state the nature of work which the State Rice Officer (Mr. S. Rangaswami Aiyangar) was doing at Tanjore in the months of Meenam and Medom 1118?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The State Rice Officer (*Mr. S. Rangaswami Aiyangar*) was engaged in the inspection and despatch of the rice which was supplied to the State from Tanjore area by the Grain Purchase Officer, Tanjore.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the officer is still in the same place, doing the same work?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: He has gone from Tanjore to Trichinopoly.

Export of Agricultural products such as yams, banana etc.

41 *MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN; Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the export of banana, pumpkins and yams such as chena, chembu and kachil from Travancore to other places has been prohibited; and

(*b*) if so, the date of such prohibition?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (*a*) No.

(*b*) in view of the answer to part (*a*) this does not arise.

Export of Sago.

42 *MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the export of sago prepared out of tapioca flour from Travancore to other places has been prohibited; and

(*b*) if so, the date of such prohibition?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: (*a*) Possessing of tapioca powder is prohibited under Government Notification ROC. No. 2133-1/42/CFS., dated 18th November 1942 and export of tapioca in any form except under permits is also prohibited under Government Notification ROC. No. 2133/42/CFS., dated 25th October 1942.

(*b*) Please refer to answer to part (*a*).

The price of Coir and its products.

43 *MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether a Board of Control has been established; and

(*b*) if so, the nature and extent of the work intended to be done by such a Board?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: (*a*) A Trade Committee has been established.

(*b*) The member is referred to the Press Note, dated the 13th December 1943, vide copy placed on the table.

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